

Woodland Property Name	Abbots Rise Woodland	
Unique Reference	506840E 204138N	
Plan Period 01/05/2026 (ten years)	Approval Date: 01/08/2026	To: 31/07/2036
Five Year Review Date	05/2031	

Approval Criteria – FC Office Use Only

The UKFS states that a management plan should:

UKFS	Approval Criteria	FC Approval & Notes
State the objectives of management, and how sustainable forest management is to be achieved	Have objectives of management been stated? Consideration given to economic, environmental and social factors (Section 2.2)	
Provide a means to communicate forest proposals and engage interested parties	Have work proposals been communicated in the management strategy (section 6) and felling & restock table (section 8) and potential interested parties identified in Section 7	
Serve as an agreed statement of intent against which implementation can be checked and monitored	Has a five year review period been stated below and achievements recorded in section 3	
Approving Officer Name		Plan approved ☐

To Maximise Functionality

- Connect to the internet;
- Enable macros when prompted;
- where the text is blue and underlined additional information is available, hover over the text with your mouse and double click to open;
- where you see the  symbol, left click on it and press the F1 key for a further explanation of the detail required;
- throughout the document where you see '**Add Box**' double click on the text and additional boxes will appear (enable macros first).

Property Details

Name	James Morgan	Owner ☒	Tenant ☐
Email	james_hmorgan@yahoo.co.uk	Contact Number	07850 090808
Address	39 Abbots Rise, Kings Langley, Herts WD4 8AR		
Agent Name (if applicable) N/A			
Contact Number		Email	
County	Herts	Nearest Town	Hemel Hempstead
Grid Reference (e.g. ST 625 785)	506840E 204138N	Local Authority	Dacorum Borough Council
Management Plan Area (Hectares)		0.61 ha	
List the maps associated with this management plan (PLEASE NOTE: Google Maps/ images of maps will not be accepted because they are copyright protected and should not be used commercially without the appropriate licencing from Google).		Ordnance Survey Plan Reference TL0604 H.M. Land Registry Title Number HD184158	
Do you intend to apply for a felling licence with this management plan?		Yes ☒	No ☐

Vision and Objectives

To develop your long term vision, you need to express as clearly as possible the overall direction of management for the woodland and how you envisage it will be in the future.

2.1 Vision

Describe your long term vision for the woodland(s).

The long-term vision is to maintain and enhance a small, semi-natural native broadleaved woodland that supports a rich diversity of wildlife and plant species.

The woodland will develop a varied structure with a mix of tree ages and species, gradually transitioning away from ash dominance due to ash dieback. A healthy understorey and ground flora, including bluebells, will be encouraged through sensitive management.

Deadwood and habitat features will be retained to support birds, bats, and mammals, ensuring the woodland remains a resilient and ecologically valuable habitat with minimal intervention.

2.2 Management Objectives

State the objectives of management, and how sustainable forest management is to be achieved. Objectives are a set of specific, quantifiable statements that represent what needs to happen to achieve the long term vision.

No.	Objectives (including environmental, economic and social considerations)
1	Protect and enhance biodiversity, including birds, bats, and ground flora
2	Maintain and improve woodland health and resilience, particularly in response to ash dieback
3	Encourage natural regeneration of native broadleaved species
4	Develop structural diversity through selective thinning and small-scale interventions
5	Manage bramble dominance to allow ground flora such as bluebells to thrive
6	Retain and manage ivy to balance habitat value and tree health
7	Maintain standing and fallen deadwood as wildlife habitat where safe
8	Monitor and manage grey squirrel impacts
9	Monitor deer browsing levels and respond if necessary
10	Avoid disturbance to protected species such as bats and badgers
11	Maintain a low-intervention, continuous cover woodland system
12	Improve access for light management where required
13	Control and, where possible, eradicate invasive species of flora and fauna, particularly Japanese knotweed
14	Ensure the safety of highway and footpath users adjacent to the woodland through selective tree management where required
15	Ensure all management aligns with sustainable forestry principles and Forestry Commission guidance

Plan Review - Achievements

Use this section to identify achievements made against previous plan objectives. This section should be completed at the 5 year review and could be informed through monitoring activities undertaken.

Objective	Achievement

Woodland Survey

This section is about collecting information relating to your woodland and its location, including any statutory constraints: designations, European Protected Species etc. Woodland information for your property can be found on the [Magic website](#) or the Forestry Commission Land Information Search.

Brief description of the woodland property

The woodland extends to approximately 0.61 hectares and consists predominantly of native broadleaved species, including ash and oak, with additional mixed native species.

The structure is relatively dense, with significant bramble cover in the understorey and widespread ivy present both on the ground and climbing trees.

Despite this, the woodland supports valuable ground flora, including bluebells, indicating long-established woodland characteristics.

The site supports a range of wildlife including bats, owls, woodpeckers, badgers, and other native bird species. A small number of deer are present, along with grey squirrels.

Overall, the woodland is of high ecological value but would benefit from light management to improve structure and species diversity.

A small, localised area of the woodland is affected by Japanese Knotweed. This invasive non-native species presents a risk to native biodiversity by outcompeting ground flora and inhibiting natural regeneration. Its presence is currently limited in extent but requires active management.

The woodland is bordered in part by public highways and footpaths, providing accessibility and contributing to its value as a local amenity. This proximity requires consideration in management practices, particularly in relation to public safety, boundary maintenance, and the control of invasive species, to ensure both ecological integrity and safe enjoyment of the site.

Woodland Protection

This section allows you to consider the potential threats facing your woodland(s). Where relevant, under the following headings, describe any potential threats and as informed by both the likelihood of presence and potential impact, communicate any required management response. This could, for example, be providing information in relation to putting in place a plan, monitoring or direct action.

Plant Health
Ash dieback is present and poses a long-term risk to the woodland canopy
Action: Monitor annually and remove only hazardous trees where necessary. Encourage replacement through natural regeneration.
Deer
A small population is present with currently low impact
Action: Monitor browsing levels and introduce protection measures if regeneration is affected.
Grey Squirrels
Present and may impact regeneration and tree health
Action: Monitor damage and consider control measures if impacts increase.
Livestock and Other Mammals
Badgers are present
Action: Protect setts and avoid disturbance during operations.
Water & Soil (soil erosion, acidification of water, pollution etc)
No significant issues identified
Action: Maintain ground cover and avoid soil compaction during works.
Environmental (inc flooding, wind damage, fire, invasive species etc)
Dense bramble, ivy dominance, ash dieback, and the presence of Japanese Knotweed represent key environmental pressures
Action: Gradual thinning and vegetation management to improve structure and resilience. Implement targeted control of Japanese knotweed using appropriate chemical or mechanical methods Prevent spread through careful biosecurity measures (cleaning tools, avoiding soil movement)
Climate Change Resilience (provenance, lack of diversity, uniform structure)
Current reliance on ash reduces resilience
Action: Promote mixed native species and structural diversity. Oak, Wild Service or Silver Birch in areas of open canopy. Hornbeam, hazel or beech in more shady areas

Other Threats

Dense shading limiting ground flora.

- Likelihood: High
- Impact: Moderate
- Response: Selective thinning and bramble control

Japanese Knotweed

- Likelihood: High (confirmed presence)
- Impact: High (invasive, suppresses native species)
- Response:
 - Develop and implement a control programme
 - Use stem injection or foliar herbicide treatment during growing season
 - Monitor annually and retreat as required
 - Avoid spreading contaminated soil or plant material

Strategy

This section requires a statement of intent, setting out how you intend to achieve your management objectives and manage important features and issues identified within the previous sections of the plan. The information provided should be succinct.

Mgt Objective/Feature	Outline Work Prescriptions/Operations	Year
Woodland structure	Light selective thinning of poor-quality and suppressed trees.	1
Ash dieback	Identify and remove hazardous ash trees only	Ongoing
Ground flora	Cut back bramble in small areas to create glades	2
Regeneration	Monitor and encourage natural regeneration	Ongoing
Ivy management	Selective cutting where impacting tree safety	3
Biodiversity	Retain deadwood and create habitat piles	Ongoing
Monitoring	Review woodland condition and adjust management	Annual Review
Invasive species control	Survey and map extent of Japanese knotweed; implement herbicide treatment programme	1
Invasive species control	Repeat treatment and monitor regrowth	2-5

Boundary maintenance	Light selective thinning of potentially dangerous over-hanging trees	Ongoing
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Stakeholder Engagement

There can be a requirement on both the FC and the owner to undertake consultation/engagement. Please refer to [Operations Note 35](#) for further information.

Work Proposal	Individual/ Organisation	Date Contacted	Date feedback received	Response	Action
Woodland management in accordance with the plan	Neighbouring landowners			Informal consultation where operations are near boundaries	Notify prior to works
Woodland management in accordance with the plan	Dacorum Borough Council			Tree works	Complete application for tree works form where applicable

8. [Felling & Restocking](#) Should you wish to associate a felling licence with your management plan please complete the table below. Set out your felling intentions by identifying individual species where they comprise more than 20% of the volume to be felled. Individual species at or below 20% need to be grouped as MB (mixed broadleaf) and/or MC (mixed conifer).

Cpt(s)	Sub Cpt	Felling Type	Species	Area of Felling (ha)	Est Volume M ³ (Bdlv/Con)	Pref Fell Year	Restock Species	Restock Area (ha)	% of Total Restock Area	Map No	TPO	Designation
1	1a, 1b	CF	BE, MB, JL, MC	1.3	100/200	16/17	OK/BI/BE/WCH	1.3	100	1	No	No
1	1a	LISS Thin T	MB	0.61 ha	15/0	2026	MB (natural regeneration – oak, mixed native)	0.61 ha	No restocking required	1	Yes	

9. Monitoring

Indicators of success should be defined for each management objective and then checked at regular intervals. Use the below section to identify when and how monitoring is to be carried out. The data collected will help to evaluate progress.

Management Objective	Indicator of Success	Method of Assessment	Frequency of Assessment	Responsibility	Assessment Results
Biodiversity	Presence of birds, bats, badgers	Visual observation	Annual	Owners	
Regeneration	Number of seedlings	Sample plots	Annual	Owners	
Ash dieback	Tree condition	Visual inspection	Annual	Owners	
Ground flora	Bluebell coverage	Visual survey	Spring annually	Owners	
Structure	Light levels and canopy gaps	Inspection	Every 2-3 years	Owners	
Japanese Knotweed control	Reduction in knotweed area	Visual survey/mapped extent	Quarterly	Owners	
Boundary maintenance	Healthy trees, low risk of trees, branches falling onto public highway	Visual observation	Twice annually	Owners	